



PUBLIC NOTICE

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WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU AND OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY ANNOUNCE TEMPORARY PORTAL-BASED PROTECTIONS FOR FEDERAL OPERATIONS IN AND AROUND HAWAII

GN Docket Nos. 17-258 and 15-319

With this Public Notice, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) and the Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) of the Federal Communications Commission (Commission or FCC) announce a temporary arrangement with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), Department of Defense (DoD), and the Department of the Navy (Navy) that will allow Citizens Broadband Radio Service users—including Priority Access Licensees—to begin operating in the 3550-3650 MHz band in Hawaii before Environmental Sensing Capability (ESC) sensors are locally deployed.¹ This arrangement will be valid until June 30, 2024.² After that time, federal operations near Hawaii will be protected by certified ESCs.

As described in NTIA's September 21, 2023 Letter, under this arrangement, Navy will temporarily utilize the TARDyS3 portal to schedule and protect its operations in and around Hawaii.³ Specifically, to ensure a stable and predictable spectral environment, Navy has agreed to utilize three 10-megahertz channels in the 3550-3650 MHz band,⁴ making the remaining seven 10-megahertz channels available for Citizens Broadband Radio Service Users. The three channels will be registered with TARDyS3 and will be considered "in use" while the temporary portal-based solution is in place. The

¹ See Letter from Charles Cooper, Associate Administrator, Office of Spectrum Management, NTIA to Ronald T. Repasi, Chief, OET, FCC and Joel Taubenblatt, Chief, WTB, FCC (September 21, 2023) (September 21, 2023 NTIA Letter), available at: <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/1092117317824/1>. See also Letter from Seth L. Williams Counsel Hawaiian Electric Company, to Ronald Repasi (Acting) Chief OET, and Joel Taubenblatt (Acting) Chief WTB (Aug. 29, 2022) (HEC Letter), <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings/filing/108292012911004>. Hawaiian Electric Company (HEC) encouraged FCC, NTIA, and DoD to consider using a portal-based scheduling solution to protect federal operations near Hawaii until an ESC could be deployed.

² See September 21, 2023 NTIA Letter.

³ See September 21, 2023 NTIA Letter; See also Letter from Charles Cooper, Associate Administrator, Office of Spectrum Management, NTIA to Ronald T. Repasi, Acting Chief, OET, FCC and Joel Taubenblatt, Acting Chief, WTB, FCC (August 14, 2023) (August 2023 NTIA Letter), available at: <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/10814108365840/1>; *Promoting Investment in the 3550-3700 MHz Band*, GN Docket Nos. 17-258 and 15-319, Order, DA 23-734 (WTB/OET 2023); and *Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and Office of Engineering and Technology Announce Deployment of a New Federal Portal System and Revision to the List of Protected Facilities in the 3.5 GHz Band*, GN Docket Nos. 17-258 and 15-319, Public Notice, DA 23-733 (WTB/OET 2023) (WTB/OET TARDyS3 PN).

⁴ The specific frequency ranges of the channels are 3550-3560 MHz (channel 1), 3630-3640 MHz (channel 9), and 3640-3650 MHz (channel 10). See September 21, 2023 NTIA Letter at 2, note 6.

Navy will retain priority rights to utilize the remainder of the 3550-3650 MHz band on an “as needed” basis (e.g., major exercises) consistent with part 96 of the Commission’s rules and the Navy’s spectrum use will be coordinated via the TARDyS3 coordination portal.⁵

We direct all certified Spectrum Access System administrators to begin using the TARDyS3 portal to coordinate Citizens Broadband Radio Service operations in the 3550-3650 MHz band—consistent with the terms described in this Public Notice and the September 21, 2023 NTIA Letter—in and around Hawaii until June 30, 2024.

People with Disabilities. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY).

Additional Information. For further information regarding this Public Notice, please contact Paul Powell, Associate Division Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Mobility Division at paul.powell@fcc.gov or 202-418-1613.

By the Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and the Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology.

⁵ See September 21, 2023 NTIA Letter at 2. See also WTB/OET TARDyS3 PN.